

Strategic Planning Process

The Office of Early Childhood (OEC), a state agency created in 2013, envisions a Connecticut where all young children are safe, healthy, learning and thriving. The OEC's hope is that each child is surrounded by a strong network of nurturing adults who deeply value the importance of the first years of a child's life and who have the skills, knowledge, support and passion to meet the unique needs of every child.

To help us achieve our vision, the OEC will be creating a 4-year strategic plan to guide our work over the coming years. Your feedback will help enrich our planning. Below are opportunities that will allow you to share your thoughts and help influence the plan.



Release of Strategic Plan Framework: Summer 2015

The OEC will hold public forums across the state to seek input from the public on its strategic plan framework. Over the past decade, many reports have been written by commissions, task forces, policy groups, researchers and state agencies about ways to improve public policy to better support young children and families. These reports incorporated significant public participation and the OEC has chosen to use the wisdom, work and input collected in these reports as a starting point for its strategic plan framework. The OEC has reviewed over fifty of these state and national strategy papers and synthesized their recommendations as the foundation of its strategy framework. The OEC will release this framework and host public forums for discussion, allowing families, providers and stakeholders to participate in the strategic planning process. In particular, the OEC will seek feedback on key reports not part of the OEC's initial review of existing literature that would contribute to the strategic plan framework and any concerns or support for proposed priorities.

Release of Draft Strategic Plan: Fall 2015

Based on public feedback, new legislation and appropriated funds, the OEC will develop the strategic plan by fleshing out the framework with additional detail and specific strategies and goals. The OEC will share the draft full strategic plan on its website, through a webinar, public forums, and through the Early Childhood Cabinet. The public will have an opportunity to provide feedback on the draft plan through an online survey and through comment at the Early Childhood Cabinet Meeting and forums.

Release of Final Strategic Plan Released Projected Fall 2015

After incorporating public feedback, the OEC will release its final 4-year strategic plan and an annual operational plan, describing how the agency will work toward its 4-year goals each year.

Public Forum Details

Public Forums on Strategic Plan Framework: Summer 2015

Target audience: Early childhood professionals, organizations, and researchers

Purpose: To recommend additional statewide or national reports to be reviewed and included in the framework

What will be shared and discussed: A literature review of research that will provide a framework for our strategic plan

Format: Regional daytime meetings, statewide supplemental webinars

Dates:

August 10th, 2015, 10:00am-11:30am: 34 Murray Street, Waterbury at Family Service of Greater Waterbury

August 11th, 2015, 10:00am-11:30am: 188 Richards Ave, Norwalk at Norwalk Community College, West Campus
Room W105

August 13th, 2015,

10:00am-11:30am, 1 Hamden Center, 2319 Whitney Avenue, Hamden, at William Caspar Graustein
Memorial Fund

7:00pm-8:30pm: Webinar and conference call, details on signing up will be released (Note: this is an
evening webinar)

August 15th, 2015 9:00am-10:30am, Webinar and conference call, details on signing up will be released (Note:
This is a weekend webinar)

More dates and locations to be announced in Eastern CT

Public Forums on Strategic Plan Draft: Fall 2015

Target audience: Providers, parents, community members, providers, public

Purpose: To collect feedback on the goals and objectives of the strategic plan

What will be shared and discussed: The draft strategic plan with clear goals and objectives

Format: Community-based meetings at night, weekends, and daytime in parent-friendly locations and embedded in
existing community meetings where possible

Dates:

Dates and locations to be announced. If you would like to host a strategic planning forum for stakeholders in
your community, please contact Mary Farnsworth.

For more information, please contact Mary Farnsworth at mary.farnsworth@ct.gov or visit the OEC webpage at
www.ct.gov/oec